THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Exports depend on a large number of factors such as availability of surpluses for export, agricultural production, industrial production, availability of credit, inflation rate, domestic demand, domestic policies as also global factors such as global trading environment, economic environment in our trading partner countries, external demand for our products etc. However, it can be said that a deregulated environment in terms of simplification of procedures etc. contributes to faster growth in exports, as compared to a totally regulated export-import regime. The negative rate of growth of exports of 1.5% in dollar terms during 91-92 has been reversed and exports during the year 92-93 have shown signs of revival.

(b) Among the reasons for slow growth in exports mention may be made of rapid fall in trade with CIS and East European countries, recession in industrially advanced countries and sluggish growth in world trade.

(c) In order to boost exports, the Government have taken major steps for liberalisation of trade which include provision of export-linked imports, reduction of import licensing, strengthening export incentives and removal of procedural irritants through simplification of policy and procedures. In the 1993-94 Budget, the system of market determined unified exchange rate has been introduced and customs and excise duties have been reduced. Besides, 34 commodities have been identified as "Extreme Focus" sectors aimed at value or volumes increase of 30% every year, in exports. The Government is also making efforts to ensure that India's trade with the former Rupee Payment Countries is not only maintained but also enhanced in the long run.

Increasing the limit of payment of Bonus

@3340. SHRI PRAVAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are contemplating the enhancement of payment of bonus from 8.33 per cent and also contemplating to enhance the limit of exgratia payment from Rs. 1600/- to the wage earners; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal to amend the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965.

(b) Does not arise.

बाल श्रमिकों की सामाजिक-आर्थिक दशा

3341. **श्री राम नरेश यादव** : क्या श्रम मंत्री 1 मार्च, 1993 को राज्य सभा में अतारांकित प्रश्न संख्या 763 के दिए गए उत्तर को देखेंगे और यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार देश में बाल श्रमिकों की सामाजिक-आर्थिक दशा के संबंध में कोई नवीन सर्वेक्षण कराने का विचार रखती है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो यह सर्वेक्षण कब तक कराया जाना संभव होगा ?

श्रम मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री पी. ए. संगमा) : (क) और (ख) नियोजन क्षेत्र के समस्त क्षेत्र को शामिल करने के उद्देश्य से बाल श्रमिकों की सामाजार्थिक दशाओं का व्यापक सर्वेक्षण करवाने का कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है । तथापि, स्थान और क्षेत्रीय विस्तार के सीमित उद्देश्य से विभिन्न विभागों/संगठनों द्वारा समय-समय पर विशिष्ट

@Previously Unstarred Question 2550, transferred from 16th March, 1993.